

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

Re-Deployment Medical Threat Briefing

CFLCC and CJTF-7 Surgeons
10 May 04



Prepared by:
**U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive
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Re-deployment Medical Briefing

- **Purpose of this briefing**
- **Background on health concerns**
- **Health threats from this region**
- **Re-deployment medical requirements**
- **Homecoming Stress**
- **Summary and where to get more infor**



Purpose of this briefing

To ensure that any concerns you may have about your health are addressed and that you understand the medical requirements for re-deployment



Background

- **Over 300,000 US and Coalition Forces are re-deploying from support of Operation Iraqi Freedom**
- **Of utmost importance is force health protection and addressing concerns you might have about your health**



Medical Requirements for Re-deployment

- In-theater
 - Receiving this post-deployment medical threat briefing
 - Completing the Post-Deployment Health Assessment (DD Form 2796)
 - Receiving post-deployment medical screening (of 2796), testing, and follow-up
 - Understanding where to go for health problems or concerns after you return home
- Home Station
 - Tuberculosis skin test (TB), blood draw and any indicated referral appointments

Medical Threats for the Region

- Threat Categories

- Infectious
- Vector borne
- Animal associated
- Environmental

- Diarrheal diseases
- Tuberculosis
- Malaria
- Dengue
- Meningococcal Meningitis
- Leishmaniasis
- Q-Fever
- Rabies
- Sandfly Fever
- Schistosomiasis
- Typhoid/Paratyphoid
- Typhus
- Boutonneuse Fever
- West Nile Fever
- Leptospirosis

Common Health Problems Reported

The most commonly reported health problems observed in theater:

- Upper respiratory illness
- Diarrhea

Upper Respiratory Infection

- Can be caused by a number of different things, viruses, bacteria, dust particles
- The contributing factors are close living quarters, variation in sleep routine, stress, change in hygiene habits
- Symptoms resolve in a few days
- If you are experiencing signs of a cold, like draining sinuses, sore throat or cough for more than 2 weeks, seek medical attention

The background of the slide is a stylized American flag, with the stars and stripes visible. The title is enclosed in a white box with a thin red border.

Diarrheal Diseases

- It is normal for almost everyone to have some bowel disturbances due to changes in diet and eating habits
- Can be caused by bacteria, viruses, or parasites
- If you currently have diarrhea symptoms (loose watery stools, more than 3 times per day), speak to a health care provider

Infectious Diseases: STDs/Bloodborne

- Sexually Transmitted and/or Bloodborne Diseases
 - HIV/AIDS
 - Gonorrhea
 - Chlamydia
 - Syphilis
 - Hepatitis B

If you abstained from sexual contact while deployed, you are not at risk for STDs

Infectious Diseases: Tuberculosis

- Tuberculosis disease is present in the Iraqi local population
 - Caused by a bacteria spread by coughing, sneezing, speaking, or spitting from infected persons
- Symptoms
 - Cough continuing for a long time, chest pain, weight loss, night sweats, fever, and weakness
- The TB skin test will show if you have been exposed to someone with active disease, not necessarily that you have the disease

Infectious Diseases: Malaria

- Blood parasite transmitted by mosquitoes
 - Disease is not in Kuwait
 - Your risk is very low in most Iraq locations and is seasonally influenced
- Symptoms
 - Incubation period: 8-14 days
 - Symptoms: fever, flu-like illness, chills, headache, muscle aches, and fatigue
- If you are at high risk of getting this disease you will be told to take malaria drugs
 - Follow your instructions completely to avoid getting sick!



Infectious Diseases: Leishmaniasis

- A parasite transmitted by sand fly bites
- Symptoms
 - Non-healing sores
 - Sometimes - fever, weight loss, weakness, anemia, swelling of spleen and liver
 - Symptoms can appear weeks to months after getting bitten
- If you experience any of these symptoms, while deployed or after you get home, make sure you speak to a health care provider!



Sand flies are very small - only one-third the size of mosquitoes.

The background of the slide is a close-up, slightly blurred image of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes. The stars are white on a blue field, and the stripes are red and white.

Animal Associated Diseases

- Naturally occurring Anthrax
- Rabies

Anthrax (Naturally Occurring)

- No exposure to bioagent Anthrax reported
 - Bacteria transmitted by animals, animal hides or contaminated meat



- Symptoms
 - On skin. Progresses from bump → blister → ulcer, swelling, and fever
- If you have an ulcer with a black scab or that has had a difficult time healing, please make sure you speak to a health care provider

Rabies

- The wild dogs roaming troop areas in Kuwait and Iraq could be carrying rabies
- Caused by virus in the saliva of infected mammals or bats
- Rabies is 100% fatal
- If you were bitten by a dog, or any other animal, post exposure treatment must be started immediately

Other Disease Threats

- Other less common infectious diseases are covered in your ***Redeployment Medical Guide for Missions in Support of Operation Iraqi Freedom*** tri-fold

Environmental Threats

- Environmental assessments ongoing at all primary troop locations in Kuwait and Iraq
- Air, soil and water analyzed for:
 - Pesticides
 - Chemicals and heavy metals
 - Radiation
- As of May, 2003, particulate matter (dust) levels were a moderate hazard but no other health risks found
- Smoke from battlefield and oil well fires was not a health hazard

The background of the slide is a close-up, slightly blurred image of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes. The stars are white on a blue field, and the stripes are red and white.

Environmental Threats: Dust

- Dust levels are consistently higher than other areas of the world
- Smoke and air pollution are similar to many industrial areas in the US
- Can cause runny nose, sore throat and cough; may worsen allergies
- Symptoms usually resolve in a few days after leaving the area; if not, seek medical attention

The background of the slide is a close-up, slightly blurred image of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes. The title is enclosed in a red rectangular border.

Post Deployment Requirements

- In-theater

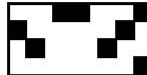
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Post-Deployment Health Assessment Form

Page 1: Service Member Administrative Information



33348

POST-DEPLOYMENT

Health Assessment



Authority: 10 U.S.C. 136 Chapter 55. 1074f, 3013, 5013, 8013 and E.O. 9397

Principal Purpose: To assess your state of health after deployment outside the United States in support of military operations and to assist military healthcare providers in identifying and providing present and future medical care to you.

Routine Use: To other Federal and State agencies and civilian healthcare providers, as necessary, in order to provide necessary medical care and treatment.

Disclosure: (Military personnel and DoD civilian Employees Only) Voluntary. If not provided, healthcare WILL BE furnished, but comprehensive care may not be possible.

INSTRUCTIONS: Please read each question completely and carefully before marking your selections. Provide a response for each question. If you do not understand a question, ask the administrator.

Demographics

Last Name

First Name

MI

Name of Your Unit or Ship during this Deployment

Gender

- ☐ Male
☐ Female

Service Branch

- ☐ Air Force
☐ Army
☐ Coast Guard
☐ Marine Corps
☐ Navy
☐ Other

Component

- ☐ Active Duty
☐ National Guard
☐ Reserves
☐ Civilian Government Employee

Location of Operation

- ☐ Europe
☐ SW Asia
☐ SE Asia
☐ Asia (Other)
☐ Australia
☐ Africa
☐ Central America
☐ Unknown
☐ South America
☐ North America
☐ Other

To what areas were you mainly deployed:
(mark all that apply - list where/date arrived)

- ☐ Kuwait
☐ Qatar
☐ Afghanistan
☐ Bosnia
☐ On a ship

Name of Operation:

Occupational specialty during this deployment
(MOS, NEC or AFSC)

Combat specialty:

Today's Date (dd/mm/yyyy)

Social Security Number

DOB (dd/mm/yyyy)

Date of arrival in theater (dd/mm/yyyy)

Date of departure from theater (dd/mm/yyyy)

Pay Grade

- ☐ E1
☐ E2
☐ E3
☐ E4
☐ E5
☐ E6
☐ E7
☐ E8
☐ E9
☐ O01
☐ O02
☐ O03
☐ O04
☐ O05
☐ O06
☐ O07
☐ O08
☐ O09
☐ O10
☐ W1
☐ W2
☐ W3
☐ W4
☐ W5
☐ Other

- ☐ Iraq
☐ Turkey
☐ Uzbekistan
☐ Kosovo
☐ CONUS
☐ Other

Administrator Use Only

Indicate the status of each of the following:

Yes No N/A

- ☐ ☐ ☐ Medical threat debriefing completed
☐ ☐ ☐ Medical information sheet distributed
☐ ☐ ☐ Post Deployment serum specimen collected

Reset

33348



Post Deployment Health Assessment Form

- DD Form 2796 must be completed no more than 30 days prior to departing for home station
 - Page 1: Administrative information
 - Deployment location
 - Country, list all
 - Operation Iraqi Freedom
- *You will need your DD 2796 in hand to depart from theater*** Do not pack it in your bags

Post Deployment Health Assessment Form

Please answer all questions in relation to **THIS** deployment

1. Did your health change during this deployment?

- ☐ Health stayed about the same or got better
☐ Health got worse

2. How many times were you seen in sick call during this deployment?

--	--

No. of times

3. Did you have to spend one or more nights in a hospital as a patient during this deployment?

- ☐ No
☐ Yes, reason/dates: _____

4. Did you receive any vaccinations just before or during this deployment?

- ☐ Smallpox (leaves a scar on the arm)
☐ Anthrax
☐ Botulism
☐ Typhoid
☐ Meningococcal
☐ Other, list: _____
☐ Don't know
☐ None

5. Did you take any of the following medications during this deployment?
(mark all that apply)

- ☐ PB (pyridostigmine bromide) nerve agent pill
☐ Mark-1 antidote kit
☐ Anti-malaria pills
☐ Pills to stay awake, such as dexedrine
☐ Other, please list _____
☐ Don't know

6. Do you have any of these symptoms now or did you develop them anytime during this deployment?

No	Yes During	Yes Now	No	Yes During	Yes Now
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Chronic cough	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Chest pain or pressure
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Runny nose	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Dizziness, fainting, light headedness
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Fever	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Difficulty breathing
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Weakness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Still feeling tired after sleeping
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Headaches	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Difficulty remembering
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Swollen, stiff or painful joints	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Diarrhea
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Back pain	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Frequent indigestion
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Muscle aches	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Vomiting
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Numbness or tingling in hands or feet	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Ringing of the ears
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Skin diseases or rashes			
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Redness of eyes with tearing			
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Dimming of vision, like the lights were going out			

7. Did you see anyone wounded, killed or dead during this deployment?
(mark all that apply)

- ☐ No ☐ Yes - coalition ☐ Yes - enemy ☐ Yes - civilian

8. Were you engaged in direct combat where you discharged your weapon?

- ☐ No ☐ Yes (☐ land ☐ sea ☐ air)

9. During this deployment, did you ever feel that you were in great danger of being killed?

- ☐ No ☐ Yes

10. Are you currently interested in receiving help for a stress, emotional, alcohol or family problem?

- ☐ No ☐ Yes

11. Over the LAST 2 WEEKS, how often have you been bothered by any of the following problems?

- | None | Some | A Lot |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> Little interest or pleasure in doing things |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> Feeling down, depressed, or hopeless |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> Thoughts that you would be better off dead or hurting yourself in some way |

12. Have you ever had any experience that was so frightening, horrible, or upsetting that, IN THE PAST MONTH, you

- | No | Yes |
|-----------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> Have had any nightmares about it or thought about it when you did not want to? |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> Tried hard not to think about it or went out of your way to avoid situations that remind you of it? |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> Were constantly on guard, watchful, or easily startled? |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> Felt numb or detached from others, activities, or your surroundings? |

15. On how many days did you wear your MOPP over garments?

--	--

No. of days

16. How many times did you put on your gas mask because of alerts and NOT because of exercises?

--	--

No. of times

17. Were you in or did you enter or closely inspect any destroyed military vehicles?

- ☐ No ☐ Yes

18. Do you think you were exposed to any chemical, biological, or radiological warfare agents during this deployment?

- ☐ No ☐ Don't know
☐ Yes, explain with date and location

13. Are you having thoughts or concerns that ...

- | No | Yes | Unsure |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> You may have serious conflicts with your spouse, family members, or close friends? |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> You might hurt or lose control with someone? |

14. While you were deployed, were you exposed to:
(mark all that apply)

No	Sometimes	Often
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> DEET insect repellent applied to skin
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Pesticide-treated uniforms
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Environmental pesticides (like area fogging)
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Flea or tick collars
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Pesticide strips
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Smoke from oil fire
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Smoke from burning trash or feces
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Vehicle or truck exhaust fumes
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Tent heater smoke
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> JP8 or other fuels
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Fog oils (smoke screen)
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Solvents
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Paints
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Ionizing radiation
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Radar/microwaves
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Lasers
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Loud noises
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Excessive vibration
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Industrial pollution
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Sand/dust
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Depleted Uranium (If yes, explain) _____
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> Other exposures _____

33348

Reset

Reset

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Post Deployment Health Assessment Form

- Page 2: Service Member Report
 - Report vaccinations, medications, and health care during deployment process
 - Report experiences, symptoms or concerns
 - Page 3: Service Member Report
 - Report possible exposures and duration
 - Identify potentially hazardous situations that may concern you
- *You will need your DD 2796 to out-process from theater***

Post-Deployment Health Assessment Form

Page 4: Health Care Provider Assessment

Health Care Provider Only

SERVICE MEMBER'S SOCIAL SECURITY #

— —

Post-Deployment Health Care Provider Review, Interview, and Assessment

Interview

1. Would you say your health in general is: ☐ Excellent ☐ Very Good ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor
2. Do you have any medical or dental problems that developed during this deployment? ☐ Yes ☐ No
3. Are you currently on a profile or light duty? ☐ Yes ☐ No
4. During this deployment have you sought, or do you now intend to seek, counseling or care for your mental health? ☐ Yes ☐ No
5. Do you have concerns about possible exposures or events during this deployment that you feel may affect your health?
Please list concerns: _____

6. Do you currently have any questions or concerns about your health? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Please list concerns: _____

Health Assessment

After my interview/exam of the service member and review of this form, there is a need for further evaluation as indicated below. (More than one may be noted for patients with multiple problems. Further documentation of the problem evaluation to be placed in the service member's medical record.)

REFERRAL INDICATED FOR:

- ☐ None
- ☐ Cardiac
- ☐ Combat/Operational Stress Reaction
- ☐ Dental
- ☐ Dermatologic
- ☐ ENT
- ☐ Eye
- ☐ Family Problems
- ☐ Fatigue, Malaise, Multisystem complaint
- ☐ Audiology

- ☐ GI
- ☐ GU
- ☐ GYN
- ☐ Mental Health
- ☐ Neurologic
- ☐ Orthopedic
- ☐ Pregnancy
- ☐ Pulmonary
- ☐ Other _____

EXPOSURE CONCERNS (During deployment):

- ☐ Environmental
- ☐ Occupational
- ☐ Combat or mission related
- ☐ None

Comments: _____

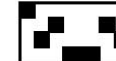
I certify that this review process has been completed.
Provider's signature and stamp:

This visit is coded by V70.5 __ 6

Date (dd/mm/yyyy)

/ /

End of Health Review



Post Deployment Health Assessment Form

- Page 4: Health Assessment
 - Face-to-face discussion with Health Care Provider (HCP)
 - Answer based on how you are feeling today
 - Review of completed DD 2796 with HCP
 - Follow-up may be recommended at home station
 - Answering yes to any questions will not delay your departure from theater
- *Hand-carry a copy of your DD 2796 all the way through your home station out-processing***

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Post Deployment Requirements

- In-theater

- Receiving this post-deployment medical threat briefing
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- Home Station

- TB skin test, blood draw and referral appointments

Preventive Measures Required

- Tuberculosis Skin Test
 - A skin test on the forearm to show if you have been exposed to tuberculosis
 - Delayed onset of positive test in some folks requires that you be tested twice:
 - At the time of redeployment
 - At 3-6 months after redeployment
(Date will be indicated on your DD Form 2796)
 - You must return 48-72 hours after the test to have it read and documented by a health care professional
- Blood sample taken at home station



Blood Donation

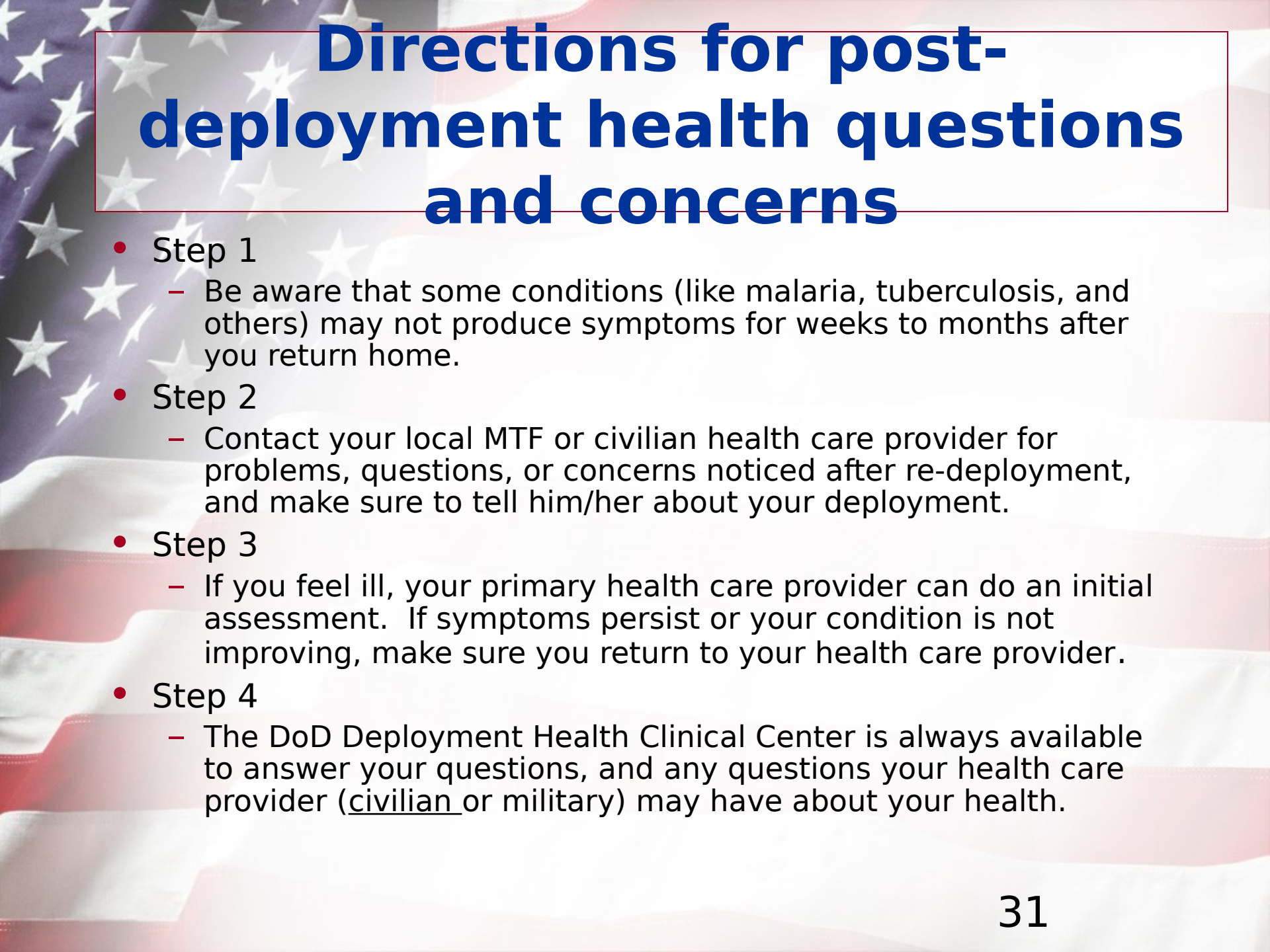
- If you get malaria you will be deferred from donating blood for 3 years

Soldiers who have been to Iraq cannot donate blood for a year after redeploying.



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Directions for post-deployment health questions and concerns

- Step 1
 - Be aware that some conditions (like malaria, tuberculosis, and others) may not produce symptoms for weeks to months after you return home.
- Step 2
 - Contact your local MTF or civilian health care provider for problems, questions, or concerns noticed after re-deployment, and make sure to tell him/her about your deployment.
- Step 3
 - If you feel ill, your primary health care provider can do an initial assessment. If symptoms persist or your condition is not improving, make sure you return to your health care provider.
- Step 4
 - The DoD Deployment Health Clinical Center is always available to answer your questions, and any questions your health care provider (civilian or military) may have about your health.

DoD Deployment Health Clinical Center

Walter Reed Army Medical Center

6900 Georgia Avenue, NW

Building 2, Room 3G04

Washington, DC 20307-5001

Phone: (202) 782-6563

Fax: (202) 782-3539

DSN: 662-3577

Toll Free Help Line: (800) 796-9699

<http://www.pdhealth.mil>

Remember “deploymenthealth.mil”

Reunion with family and friends

- Reunion is a part of the deployment cycle and can be filled with joy and stress. Reintegration into the family structure is a critical process.
- Refer to the ***A Soldier and Family Guide to redeploying*** for things to remember during reunion with family and friends.
- Chaplains and counselors are available to help cope with homecoming stress.



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Summary

- Background
- Post Deployment Requirements
- Potential health threats
- Completion of DD Form 2796
- Where to go for health information
- Homecoming Stress

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Conclusion

It is important to the US military and the Nation that you enjoy good health as you rejoin your family and friends upon return to home station.

If you have health problems or concerns, it is critical that you let someone know. It will not delay your departure for home station.

Are there any questions?